

## AJ Burton

Vice President, Federal Regulatory 1800 M Street, NW, Suite 850S Washington, DC 20036 (202) 223-6807 AJ.Burton@ftr.com

January 16, 2019

## **VIA ECFS**

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90

Dear Ms. Dortch:

In 2015, Frontier accepted Connect America Fund (CAF) Phase II support to deploy broadband service to over 774,000 locations in twenty-nine states. Using that support, Frontier has already enabled broadband service at speeds of at least 10/1 Mbps or higher to more than 460,000 locations in CAF II census blocks in those states. Frontier's current year-end data reflects that it met or exceeded the program's December 31, 2018 interim broadband deployment milestone in twenty-seven states.

At this point, however, that data also reflects that, while very close, Frontier may not have reached the deployment milestone in two states. Thus, in accord with 47 C.F.R. § 54.320(d), Frontier provides this notice that, based on preliminary year-end data, it may not have met the CAF Phase II sixty percent interim deployment milestone in Nebraska and New Mexico. Still, our tracking also reflects that, in each of these states, Frontier has deployed to fifty-seven percent or more of the total CAF II locations in each state. Frontier continues its process to review, validate and confirm the data. By March 1, we will provide the vetted requisite information to the HUBB portal in accord with 47 C.F.R. § 54.316.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Because Frontier currently anticipates that any compliance gap for these states will be less than five percent of the interim deployment milestone, the Commission's non-compliance measures should not be triggered. *See* 47 C.F.R. § 54.320(d) (reflecting that non-compliance measures are not triggered until a carrier has a compliance gap of at least five percent); *see also Connect America Fund, et al.*, WC Docket No. 10-90, et al., Report and Order, 29 FCC Rcd 15644, 15695 n.323 (2014) (stating that "a shortfall of less than 5% of locations for a given interim milestone should not be a concern warranting additional monitoring").

Frontier continues to deploy broadband to CAF II locations under the program and remains committed to meeting its CAF II obligations. In accord with section 54.320(d), Frontier is also providing this notice to the Universal Service Administrative Company and to state commissions and relevant Tribal Governments in the impacted states. Please contact the undersigned with any questions regarding this notice.

Sincerely,

## /s/ AJ Burton

AJ Burton

cc: Alex Minard